

12 JANUARY 2016

GUANTANAMO DETAINEE PROFILE

Detainee ISN: YM-044

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Detainee Name	Mohammad Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim
Detainee Aliases	Abu Ghanim al-Yemeni, Mohammad Rajab
Nationality	Yemeni
Date of Birth	1975
Arrival at Guantanamo	January 2002

Mohammad Rajab Sadiq Abu Ghanim (YM-044) is an experienced militant who probably acted as a guard for Usama Bin Ladin in Afghanistan. He forged relationships with future al-Qa'ida members while fighting for jihadist causes during the 1990s and probably participated in plots against government and Western interests in Saudi Arabia and Yemen. He also associated with several USS Cole plotters and probably left Yemen for Afghanistan around the time of the bombing in October 2000, although we have no evidence that he had a role in the operation. In Afghanistan, he fought for the Taliban against the Northern Alliance, worked for an al-Qa'ida-associated charity, possibly trained to become an al-Qa'ida instructor, and became one of Bin Ladin's guards, probably because of his prior jihadist experience and ties to other al-Qa'ida members. Pakistani authorities arrested him in the company of other suspected Bin Ladin bodyguards as they crossed into Pakistan in late 2001.

YM-044 has committed an average number of infractions compared to other detainees at Guantanamo Bay but has improved his behavior since mid-2013, probably because he wanted to improve his chances for transfer. The majority of his infractions have been non-violent and relatively minor; however, he has also participated in mass disturbances and non-violent demonstrations in response to quality of life issues or perceived injustices committed by the guard force. YM-044 has demonstrated varying levels of cooperation during his interviews, and his cooperation has improved when he felt that the debriefer has treated him with respect. He has been reluctant to discuss other detainees, except to report on their impending hunger strikes or possible uprisings. YM-044 appears to have some influence among other detainees and has served as an intermediary between some detainees, which may have helped raise his status in prison.

YM-044 has avoided explicitly aligning himself with violent extremism, probably judging that this may improve his chances for transfer. He has expressed hatred towards the United States on occasion, probably out of frustration with his detention and debriefers' line of questioning. One of the former detainees with whom YM-044 has corresponded is suspected of reengaging in terrorism, and several of his family members and childhood friends associate with AQAP members who could facilitate YM-044's introduction to the group or other extremist activity if he chose to reengage.